Rail facilities from Puri to New Delhi.

1297. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rail facilities available from Puri to New Delhi are inadequate; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 3 pairs of Express trains provide direct rail service between Puri and New Delhi/Hazrat Nizamuddin. These are considered adequate for present level of traffic.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of coaches and wagons

1298. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to increase the production of Coaches and Wagons; and

(b) if so, what are the targets set for their production during Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Capacity of the Integral Coach Factory, Madras is being stepped from 1000 coaches a year to 1150 coaches and of Rail Coach Factory at Kapurthala from 750 coaches a year at present to 1000 coaches by 1993-94. Wagon building is in private or public sector and the existing capacity is sufficient.

(b) Eighth Plan has not yet been finalised.

Irregular running of trains to and from Assam

1299. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the factors responsible for irregular running of trains to and from Assam on broad gauge lines even during accident free days; and

(b) what measures Government propose to take to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Law and Order situation in Assam Area.

(b) Maintaining coordination with State Government.

Train between Tirupati and Delhi

1300. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inconvenience caused to a large number of pilgrims visiting Tirupati every day due to inadequate railway facilities;

(b) whether it is a fact that trains between Tripati and Delhi are inadequate and sometimes without first class compartments; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to introduce a daily train between Delhi and Tirupati for the benefit of pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Four pairs of trains having all types of accommodations including I class coaches, connect Delhi with Gudur from where sufficient connecting trains are available to Tirupati. 2525/2526 New Delhi-Trivandrum Kerala Mangala Express and 6687/6688 Mangalore-Jammu Tawi Navyug Express stop at Renigunta, 10 kms. away from Tirupati. These services are adequate for the existing level of traffic between Delhi and Tirupati

(c) No, Sir.

Doubling of Patna-Gaya line

1301. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to connect the Patna-Gaya line from single line track to double line track keeping in view its, tourist/pilgrimage and religious importance; and

(b) if so, by when ?